

Expectations of Sporting Behaviour and Behaviour Management

Everyone involved in our competitions is committed to maintaining a fun, social, and safe environment for all participants. We encourage sportsmanship and respect at every level to ensure that everyone can enjoy a positive and friendly competitive space.

We would like to remind **all** coaches, players, managers, parents, and spectators that any form of unsporting behaviour both on and off the court will not be tolerated.

Behaviour Penalties

A 2-point deduction from a **team's season points**, not game score, will be issued by a court supervisor in consultation with referees in instances of serious unsporting behaviour or misconduct are observed. This applies to **ALL** people associated with a team, including but not limited to parents, spectators, friends, coaches, admins, managers and players.

Key Points:

- Point deductions may influence ladder standings and eligibility for finals
- These measures are in place to preserve the integrity of the game and promote good sportsmanship and accountability among all individuals present within our competitions.

How You Can Contribute:

We believe that by working together, we can effectively address these issues and prevent points deductions.

- We kindly request assistance from all players, admins, coaches, parents, and guardians to keep everyone involved with your team accountable for these standards.
 - If team managers, admins, coaches, or parents observe a player displaying signs of distress or potential unsporting behaviour, we ask that they pre-emptively remove the player from the game for the following quarter to address the situation as necessary.
- Where such issues are recognised amongst spectators, we ask that a court supervisor is notified immediately to avoid escalation.

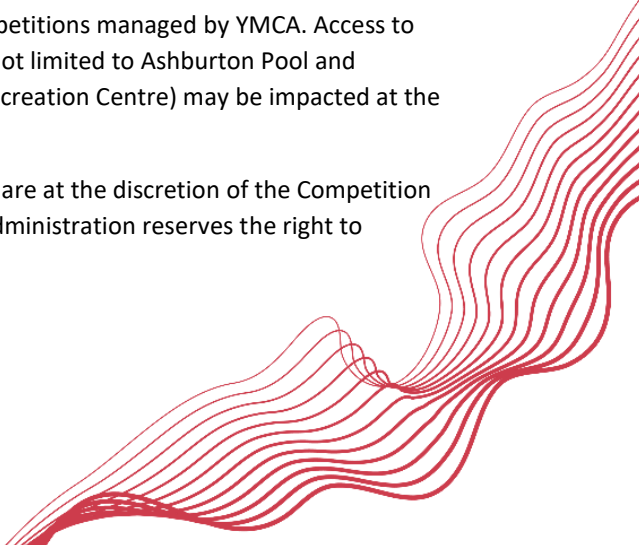
Team Removal

If a team incurs three Behaviour Penalties within a 3-year period of the competition, the team may be removed from the competition, and their team members banned from participating in competitions for the following year.

Upon their return, the team will be placed on probation for the subsequent year, and any incurrence of a Behaviour Penalty will result in a further ban.

All competition-related bans will pertain to Boroondara Stadium Competitions managed by YMCA. Access to Boroondara Sports Complex and other affiliated sites (including, but not limited to Ashburton Pool and Recreation Centre, Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, and Kew Recreation Centre) may be impacted at the discretion of Centre Management.

All decisions regarding team removals, member bans, and probations are at the discretion of the Competition and Centre Management. Boroondara Sports Complex competition administration reserves the right to withdraw any team from the competition for any reason.



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Examples of Unacceptable Behaviours

Examples of such behaviours from **players** before, during, after, or between games in our competition may include:

- Aggressive tackles/challenges/play
- Pinching, punching, kicking, pushing, or any other unnecessary physical conduct that is beyond attempting to fairly play the ball in the expected manner of the game
- **Swearing or aggressive language**
- Retaliation (e.g., pushing back after being tackled)
- Arguing with the referee's decision or not following referee instructions
- Antagonising the opposition (e.g. yelling or celebrating in the face of the opposition)
- **Simulating/Diving to gain a free kick**
- **Mocking or goading opposition players or spectators**
- **Any other form of unsporting behaviour as determined by the referee and/or supervisor**

Examples of such behaviours from **coaches/admins/spectators etc.** may include:

- Arguing with referees or not following referees' instructions
- Instructing or encouraging violent or aggressive play
- Yelling or arguing with any member of the opposing team, their coaches, or their spectators
- **Swearing**
- **Aggressive or intimidating language and behaviour**
- **Demanding or instructing referees to make certain calls.**
- Entering the field of play for any reason without referee permission
 - o exceptions apply where your child has incurred an injury **and play has stopped**

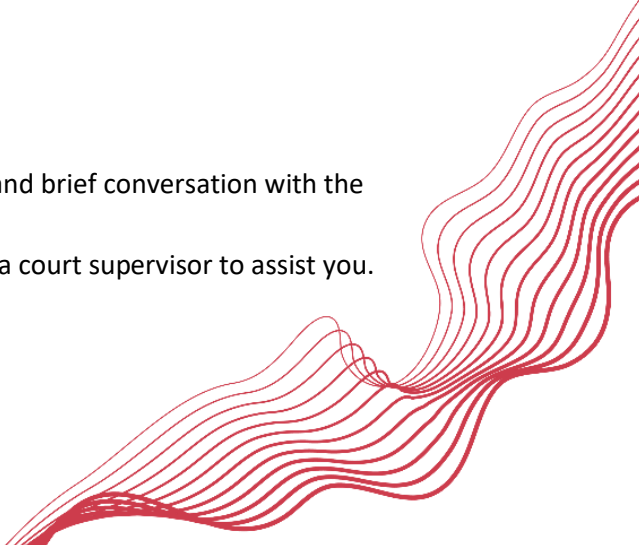
Referees at all levels may miss calls or make calls you disagree with; however, we have no tolerance for any form of abuse within our competition.

We want to create a supportive and encouraging atmosphere **where the players feel motivated and excited to play.**

What to do if you are concerned:

- **Please seek the court supervisor** who will assist or discuss any immediate concerns you might have.

What to do if you wish to clarify a call made by an referee:

- Do not approach the referee during play
 - You must wait for a break in game (half time) for calm and brief conversation with the referee about your concern.
 - If your concern remains after that process, please seek a court supervisor to assist you.
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Yellow and Red Cards

Our referees do have the authority to issue **players AND coaches/managers** with yellow or red cards at their discretion.

While on many occasions, players/coaches may receive a warning before a card is given, referees are not required to follow the order indicated and may establish a higher level of game management.

Players:

Yellow:

- Receiving a yellow or red card may come from an accumulation of unnecessary fouls (too many dangerous challenges), from a single instance of overly physical or aggressive play, swearing, dissent or any other action deemed not in the spirit of the game by the referee.
- A yellow card will result in the player being required to leave the field of play for 5 minutes of play. However, they can be replaced by a substitute during this period.

Red:

- Receiving two yellow cards within a single game, results in a red card issued.
- A red card results in the receiving player being removed from the field of play for the remainder of the game **AND** a 5-min period immediately after the card was issued where that player cannot be replaced on the field of play (enforced 5-mins when the team must play with one less player)
- They may not re-enter the space, including between match intervals

Coaches/managers:

Yellow:

- May be given to any team official, player, or spectator surrounding the playing space, from a single instance of overly physical or aggressive behaviour, swearing, dissent or any other action deemed not in the spirit of the game by the referee.
- A yellow card for a coach/manager serves as a warning (more like traditional soccer) that the behaviour resulting in the card cannot continue, if it does, a second yellow will be issued, resulting in a red card.

Red:

- In the event of a red card the coach/manager who has been given a red card may not take any further part in the match and must leave the stadium space immediately.
- They may not re-enter the space, including between match interval

If you have any questions or concerns with any of the above information, please feel free to talk to one of our court supervisors before or after your games this Friday.

